546 Finnish audiences, although occasionally they may be shown in Scandinavia too.

306 [172] Art Industry. Archeological finds have produced evidence of the artistic abilities of the ancient Finns. Peices of woven material, various trinkets and tools show interesting forms and decorative patterns. Lately, a special handicraft industry has been established to study and to reproduce old jewelry and other articles, and these so-called "Kalevala-trinkets" have become very popular among Finnish women.

• 531 [322] The Finnish men, especially in western Finland, have been skillful in carving and making decorative furniture. Certain parts of the country have excelled in special skills; for example, in Ostrobothnia there existed a long

line of clockmakers, whose products were renowned for their accuracy. Another district in Ostrobothnia is famous for the typical Finnish knives, or daggers, called puukko, which are marvelously sharp besides being nicely decorated. The manufacture of these knives is still flourishing, and the special process used in tempering the blade is kept a family secret. Almost every Finnish man carries a puukko at his belt--not for any violent purpose, but just as a handy tool--and every foreign tourist purchases one or several of them for a keepsake. Another branch of handicraft requiring special skill is the making of skis. There are several masters of this art in various parts of the country. The traditional Finnish skis are made of extra thin birch wood which is curved delicately by heating before a

322 fire and is then tarred for better glide. As the
481 skis are intended for cross-country skiing, uphill as well as downhill travel, they must be very light and carefully constructed.

286 As is to be expected, women have maintained a greater interest in handicraft than the men. Practically every farmhouse has a hand loom, and this is not rare even among the city families. Traditional skills are promoted and developed by various schools for weaving and sewing
531 which are quite well attended. The Karelian
286 women have of old been famous for their embroideries and lacy weaving patterns, the western Finnish women for their decorative linens and rugs. In certain localities lacemaking has developed into a real occupation; the most famous among these is the small

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seashore city of Rauma in southwestern Finland, where the skill has been preserved since the Middle Ages as an inheritance from the nuns in the city's cloister. The most magnificent products of Finnish handicraft, however, are the so-called ryijy rugs. The weaving of these has been limited to western Finland, especially in the provinces of Häme and Satakunta. The Finnish museums have several hundreds of them, and as many are found in private homes all over the country. These rugs are made of wool by the process of tying small pieces of different [386] colors next to each other to form a pattern. The women dye their wool with colors extracted from plant roots and leaves. Both the colors and the patterns give proof of a refined taste and artistic imagination. The ryijys were originally

531 meant for bedcovers, and every girl had several
286 of them in her dowery. Today the ryijys are used as tapestries or rugs, and since the beginning of this century interest in them has been considerable. ,Old patterns are copied and new ones created by design artists, and it is difficult to find a Finnish home without a specimen, good or bad, of this native art.

392 The native costumes also reflect the people's artistic taste. In most localities they were already abandoned from everyday use more than a century ago, but they are still commonly worn by girls and women during summer for festive occasions. The men, on the contrary, do not want to don breeches, striped weskits and buckle shoes except for folk dancing exhibitions. As for the women's dresses, almost

531 The Finns have excelled in textiles, glass and china, but furniture and certain forms of metal work also deserve mention.

815 Intellectual Expression. Organized scientific research could hardly be initiated in Finland prior to the founding of the University of Turku, and even afterwards the achievements of the Finns were seldom distinguished separately, since Finnish scholars were regarded as Swedes in the eyes of the outside world. Towards the end of the eighteenth century Finland, however, produced a couple of eminent scholars. One of these was Antti Chydenius, a minister and member of the Diet, who, prior and unknown to Adam Smith, set forth the principles of economic liberalism and defended in his pamphlets the basic liberties of the individual.